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NEW BOOKS.

New Plane Geometry. By EDWARD RUTLEDGE ROBBINS. New York: American Book Company. Pp. vi + 264.

This text covers a maximum course, having two hundred formally proved theorems, many of which might well be omitted or relegated to the appendix. The first book seems very much confused in its order, as theorems on triangles, parallels, quadrilaterals and locus are intermingled with no evident division to fix the order for the pupil. It closes with a helpful classified summary of the method discovered for future use. This idea is not followed out throughout.

The section on variables and limits is open to grave criticism as to its correctness. It would be better to omit proofs rather than to beg the question. In the work on locus the author uses the "negative" method of proof.

Among the good features of the book are its attractive pages, its easily read proofs and some good sets of exercises.

Descriptive Geometry. By H. W. MILLER. New York: John Wiley and Sons. Pp. 149. \$1.50.

This is the third edition of this book. It is written in simple conversational style and shows itself to be the work of a careful teacher. The problems are taken up by "Discussion," "Analysis," and "Construction," and the aim is evidently, as is made clear in the preface, the development of the student's power to think analytically. The reference chapter at the beginning, and the "Quiz Sheets" at the end, should both prove valuable.

First Year Course in General Science. By CLARA A. PEASE. New York: Charles E. Merrill Company. Pp. 315. \$1.20.

The book offers a foundational course in science, including parts of physical geography, astronomy, biology, physics, chemistry and geology. It prepares the pupil for later specialization, rather than attempting to finish any subject, but it is a book for serious study, not one for casual reading. It has good type, interesting subject matter and many illustrations, and seems well worth examination.

Plane Trigonometry. By A. M. HARDING and J. S. TURNER. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Pp. xiii + 158; Tables 51. Without tables 90 cents, with, \$1.10.

The first chapter reviews the geometry used in trigonometry, giving the proofs as well as the principles. The authors have tried to keep the pupil from feeling lost in the new subject by developing the practise

before taking up much of the theory. Triangles are finished with as little theory as possible, some necessary relations being assumed subject to later proof, and the more abstract theoretical work all follows the part on triangles. There are numerous interesting features, including some excellent applications of trigonometry to geometry, and some rather uncommon proofs. The formulas to be memorized are emphasized by black type, but there is no distinction between those really important and some that could as well be omitted. The tables are conveniently arranged five place tables in type that, although rather small, is still easy to read.

A Review of High-School Mathematics. By WILLIAM D. REEVE and RALEIGH SCHORLING. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Pp. x + 70. 40 cents net.

This book contains the material used for review at the University High School of the University of Chicago. It covers algebra, geometry, and some of the elements of trigonometry. There is an abundance of good material which is sometimes arranged so that it serves to group the ideas in preparation for future use, but at other times seems too much influenced by the teaching order used in first going over the subjects. In all probability this results from the fact that the book is planned to serve the double purpose of a review book for each year, and a final fourth year review of all college entrance mathematics. At the end of the book the authors give their idea of a minimum course in mathematics for the first year and a half.

Education Through Concrete Experience. Volume IV of the Francis W. Parker School Year Book. Chicago: Press of The Francis W. Parker School. Pp. 186. 35 cents.

This book has been written by the faculty of the school to illustrate their use of the concrete in the various departments. It contains such articles as "Mental Imagery in Geography," "The School Museum," "School Heating and Ventilation—A Study in Applied Physics," and "A History Newspaper." Of special interest to teachers of mathematics are "The Pupil's Experience as the Source of his Problems in Arithmetic" and "Experience Building in the Teaching of Geometry." The book is full of suggestion to both executive and teacher, and it merits a wide circulation.

Elementary Algebra. By H. E. SLAUGHT and N. J. LENNES. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. Pp. x + 357.

This book is planned to cover the first year in the subject. It gives a long course for this time, for it includes all the required topics for Elementary and Intermediate Algebra except the Progressions. Like previous books by these authors there is great emphasis on simple presentation and easy gradation in each topic, and on the side of concrete